

S-103  
Peninsula Bank  
Princess Anne  
public

c. 1905-1906

The Bank of Somerset, known since 1975 as Peninsula Bank, has occupied this neo-classical brick structure on Somerset Avenue since its construction around 1905. The street elevation of the original single-story, three-bay bank, erected in yellow-brown Roman-sized brick, is dominated by an arched double-door entrance capped by an elaborate classical pediment. In addition to an intricate decorative tympanum the cornice is composed of rows of modillions, egg-and-dart moldings, and dentils. When the bank was originally built a fenced-in yard flanked the building to the south, while the house and store of Wilmer O. Lankford stood to the north. More recently, the original bank building has been extended to the north, south and west with sympathetically designed additions executed in polished yellowish-brown brick, and stone tablets were engraved with the bank's name. Before construction of this impressive neo-classical brick structure the Bank of Somerset had occupied the first floor office of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Somerset and Worcester Counties across the street. Evidently, the bank offices were rented until plans were established to move across the street.

Maryland  
COUNTY **Somerset**  
TOWN **Princess Anne** VICINITY  
STREET NO. **Somerset Ave.**

ORIGINAL OWNER **Bank of Somerset**  
ORIGINAL USE **bank**  
PRESENT OWNER **Bank of Somerset**  
PRESENT USE **bank**  
WALL CONSTRUCTION **brick**  
NO. OF STORIES **1**

2001034712  
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS  
INVENTORY **S-103**

2. NAME **Bank of Somerset**

DATE OR PERIOD **1st quarter 20th cent.**  
STYLE **classical revival**  
ARCHITECT  
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC **yes**

The Bank of Somerset, Princess Anne is a one-story classical revival yellow Italian brick structure built on a granite foundation. Its wide central double door with semicircular fanlight having stone trim with ogee carved ekystone, is set in a pedimented pavillion which has pilasters at each side. The center of the pediment bears a cartouche and the cornice is composed of carved modillions, egg and dart, and dentil moldings. A small tin~~g~~ cornice runs along the top of the pilasters and the flanking sides beneath its hipped roof, and gives the structure a horizontal appearance which is basic to classical buildings. A single window in each side is set forward of the wall surface and has a panel beneath as in the mid-18th century Royall House, Medford, Massachusetts. More recent narrow additions have been constructed on each side of the building and their only ornamentation consists of a stone plaque bearing the name "Bank of Somerset"

The bank adds a necessary note of architectural sophistication to its

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered **no** Interior Exterior **good**

block of Somerset Ave, as its immediate neighbors are non-architectural commercial structures.



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Michael Bourne  
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE OF RECORD **10/17/72**